

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/615,334

Examiner

Dmitry Suhol

Applicant(s)

GERKEY, ALAN L.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on ____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____


DERRIS H. BANKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The specific limitations of the combination of "...a handlebar including a right-hand grip and a left-hand grip; a control lever mounted to the handlebar at or near the left-hand grip for simulating a clutch of a motorcycle; a timing circuit including: a display; a timer connected to the display; an output for generating a signal when activated; a random-timing generator connected to the timer and the output; and a switch connected to the timer and the random-timing generator and operatively connected to the control lever; the switch for activating the random-timing generator when the control lever is actuated; the random-timing generator for simultaneously activating the timer to begin timing and activating the output to generate a signal, at a random time after being activated by the switch; the switch for stopping the timer when the control lever is released; and the display for displaying an elapsed time between the timer being activated and being stopped" are not anticipated or made obvious over the prior art of record in the examiners opinion. For example, Letovsky et al '072 discloses a motorcycle simulator which teaches a handlebar (figure 3-5), a right hand grip (figures 4 and 5), a left hand grip (figures 4 and 5), a control lever simulating a clutch and mounted at or near the left hand grip (clutch 180). Allgaier '171 discloses a timing device used in testing motor vehicle driver response which teaches a user activating/deactivating a switch (22) in response to a visual output signal (23) when activated through a switch (21). In turn a

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timer (3) returns a result of the elapsed time thereby indicating a users measured response to an event. Kirson et al '751 discloses an athletic training device and method which teaches training athletes in a variety of racing conditions by providing a display (LCD 20), a timer connected to the display (timer inherent in the microcomputer 16 as pointed to in col. 5, lines 2-8), an out put for generating a signal when activated (amp 22), a random timing generator connected to the timer and the output (inherent in the device and pointed to in cols. 3-4, lines 60+ and 1-15, respectively), a switch for activating the random-timing generator (switch 11). However there is no motivation or suggestion to combine the prior art in such a way as to arrive at the applicants claimed invention capable of fulfilling all of the claimed functions.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dmitry Suhol whose telephone number is 703-305-0085. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Friday 9am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on 703-308-1745. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. H. Banks', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

DERRIS H. BANKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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